

MINUTES – JUNE 15, 2004

The Caswell County Board of Commissioners reconvened its meeting at the Historic Courthouse in Yanceyville, North Carolina at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, June 15, 2004. Members present: Mel O. Battle, Chairman, Larry G. Hamlett, Vice-Chairman, Nathaniel Hall, Cathy W. Lucas, Kenneth D. Travis, and George W. Ward, Jr. Absent: Jack W. Hooper. Also present: Jeffrey H. Earp, County Manager and Gwen Y. Vaughn, Finance Officer. Wanda P. Smith, Clerk to the Board, recorded the minutes.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

The Board held a work session on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2004-2005.

The Board continued review and discussion of the TAX DEPARTMENT budget with no changes made. Mr. Thomas Bernard, Tax Director, was present to answer questions concerning the budget.

The Board continued review and discussion of the MAINTENANCE/COUNTY BUILDINGS budget with no changes made. Mr. Travis Williamson, Maintenance Director, was present to answer questions concerning the budget.

The Board continued review and discussion of the SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT and JAIL budgets with no changes made. Sheriff Michael Welch was present to answer questions concerning the budgets and provide an update on the status of his department's operations.

The Board held a brief recess.

(Commissioner Hall entered the meeting at this time).

The Board continued review and discussion of the EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES budget with no changes made. Mr. Jim Gusler, Jr., EMS Director was present to answer questions concerning the budget. Mr. Gusler informed the Board that after surveying the EMS staff regarding the proposal of a fluctuating work week the results were overwhelming that they would like to remain on the same work and pay plan that is currently in operation.

The Board reviewed and discussed the PLANNING DEPARTMENT budget. Chairman Battle stated that there is a recommendation that Professional Land Consultant be reduced from \$2,500 to \$1,500. This change was approved by the Board.

The Board reviewed and discussed the COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE budget. Chairman Battle stated that there is a recommendation that M&R Equipment be reduced from \$1,300 to \$650. This change was approved by the Board.

The Board reviewed and discussed the CASWELL SOIL & WATER DISTRICT budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the HEALTH DEPARTMENT budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the ANIMAL CONTROL budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the MENTAL HEALTH budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT budget. Chairman Battle stated that there is a recommendation by Commissioner Lucas that Medicaid Sight Drafts be reduced from \$1,276,437 to \$1,176,437. This change was not approved by the Board.

The Board reviewed and discussed the COMMUNITY BASED ALTERNATIVES budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the SECTION 8 HOUSING PROGRAM budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the NUTRITION PROGRAM budget with no changes made.

The Board reviewed and discussed the SENIOR CENTER budget with no changes made.

The Board briefly discussed the SCHOOLS budget, specifically, the subject of Supplements.

The Board discussed the audit contract proposals for the County. The County Manager reported that after consulting with the firm of Goodman & Company, he has determined that the cost of the contract would remain the same whether it be for one, two, or three years. Mr. Earp stated that the firm of Cherry, Bekaert, & Holland confirmed that their cost would increase if the contract was for one year only. Mr. Earp added that Goodman & Company's standard hourly rate would be \$95 - \$115, depending on complexity of the work involved. Mr. Earp stated that if the Board entered into a three-year contract, an "out clause" could be included in that the County would need to notify them by May 15th of its decision that it would not continue with their services and there would be no penalty to the County. After further discussion Commissioner Lucas moved, seconded by Commissioner Hamlett to award a one-year contract to Goodman & Company to conduct the County's audit for fiscal year 2003-2004 as proposed. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to schedule a public hearing on Monday, June 28, 2004, to receive comments on the Proposed Budget for Caswell County for Fiscal Year 2004-2005. The motion carried unanimously.

The County Manager reviewed with the Board the current contract between Caswell County and Pearson Appraisal Company. Mr. Earp noted that the contract expires in the year 2007.

RECESS

At 4:40 p.m. Chairman Battle moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis to recess until Tuesday, June 22, 2004, at 3:00 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Wanda P. Smith
Clerk to the Board

M. O. Battle
Chairman
